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King of Bootleggers Gone

The following, taken from the Memphis News-Scimitar, may be of more than passing interest to many of our people, and especially to those who have followed more or less closely the career of E. A. Laughter, the one time prominent Caruthersville liquor dealer and saloon man and later daring bootlegger:

"Whether E. A. Laughter, long king of Memphis bootleggers, who is sought by Federal authorities and Sheriff Perry to serve sentences aggregating three years and six months in jail and a fine of \$3,000, will ever be brought to the bar of justice is the problem confronting local authorities.

As the result of the affirmation late Friday, in Cincinnati, of his sentence in the appellate court, Stanley Trezevant, United States Marshal, wants him to go to the Atlanta penitentiary. Sheriff Perry wants him to serve a 11-29 sentence in the Shelby county workhouse.

"And in the meantime it is generally understood that Laughter has skipped his \$10,000 bonds and departed for Honduras, via New Orleans. When Perry went to Caruthersville recently for Laughter, the latter came south at the same time. He kept going to New Orleans, where positive traces of him was lost. The sheriff thinks he took a steamer for Honduras.

"Laughter is under \$9,000 bond in Federal court, when he was released to await his appeal from his sentences last February. The bonds are signed by David Ostrich, James J. Muleahy and William Winter. The remainder of the bond is with the State criminal court. If Laughter has gone to Honduras, all bonds will be declared forfeited and collected by the courts and the tenacles of the law set out again for him.

"Honduras has few extradition treaties with the outside world, and consequently less extradition dangers, than any other country of so pleasant a climate.

"Laughter, in company with Theodore Robinson and W. N. Fisher, was

caught at Ensley Landing, Tenn., fifteen miles below Memphis, by deputy marshals and police on July 18, 1917, with 139 cases of liquor which they were unloading from a launch. Stanley Trezevant, marshal, took a pistol from Laughter, and Sheriff Perry prosecuted him on this charge.

"On charges of violating the Reed amendment and conspiracy to violate it, Laughter was found guilty in February, 1918, before Judge John E. McCall. He appealed his case, after being sentenced to six months in jail and a fine of \$1000 on the former charge and two years and a fine of \$2,000 on the last. He made bond of \$9,000 to await this appeal.

"A short time before this he was convicted in the criminal court for carrying the pistol and given eleven months and twenty-nine days, making the three years and six months and a total fine of \$3,000.

"At the trial in Federal court, Fisher was ill at Caruthersville, but Judge McCall forfeited his bond. He later appeared for trial and was convicted and sentenced to six months and a fine of \$1,000.

"Robinson got a year and a day at Atlanta and a fine of \$2,000, and as he had no finances to appeal his case, he was held for the action of the Circuit Court on a bond of \$5,000.

The case excited a great deal of interest, for Baird was a prominent citizen of the town and county. Just thirty-seven days elapsed from the time of the killing to the end of the trial.—Campbell Citizen.

The front of the Dorris Theatre is being torn down this week, preparatory to remodeling. The arches were becoming cracked and thought to becoming dangerous, and besides, a different front would be better adapted to the ice cream parlor that is soon to be put in.

Tom Baird's Murder Acquitted

The trial of Lee Fields, charged with killing Tom Baird on the latter's farm south of Campbell on December 16, was had in the circuit court at Kennett, Wednesday, January 22.

Prosecuting Attorney Geo. Smith was assisted by the firm of Ward & Reeves of Caruthersville. Langdon Jones of Kennett and R. J. Smith of Campbell represented the defendant.

Fields was charged with murder in the first degree when taken into custody, but the State elected to prosecute for murder in the second degree.

The trial began at 10:00 in the morning, and continued until about 10:30 in the evening.

Sixty-five witnesses had been summoned, and about twenty-five of these were examined. The evidence was all in by 5:30, and the attorneys presented their arguments after supper.

The jury was out only a few minutes and brought in a verdict of "not guilty."

Fields' preliminary was held before Justice of the Peace L. J. Carter at this place on December 27, and he was held for the action of the Circuit Court on a bond of \$5,000.

The case excited a great deal of interest, for Baird was a prominent citizen of the town and county.

Just thirty-seven days elapsed from the time of the killing to the end of the trial.—Campbell Citizen.

Jerrell Stoutt, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stout of Pascola, died Saturday morning, and was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in this city, Sunday afternoon. Funeral services were held at the Methodist church being conducted by Rev. K. V. Propst.

John Rose, principal of the Grammar School, has been ill for several days, and Mrs. Rose has been filling his place. Mrs. Rose is a fine instructor and the pupils like her.

Who'll Claim the Mule?

The Memphis News-Scimitar of a few days ago had the following very interesting dispatch from Alamo, Tennessee:

"The largest haul of whiskey made by officers of this county since the bone dry law went into effect was made Friday night, when Officer Ed Emison located a freight car at Fruitvale, Tenn., billed as live stock, but which contained 715 quarts, or nearly 60 cases of whiskey, valued at over \$4,000 at prevailing bootleg prices. In the same car with the whiskey was one old mouse colored mule worth about \$3.50, and an old dark bay horse worth about \$10, both nearly dead with old age, but supposed to have been kept alive by the exhilarating effects of their fellow traveler, John Barleycorn. Packed in the same car was between 125 and 150 bales of fine timothy hay. The whiskey was neatly covered with the hay.

"The whiskey was sent back a few miles to Bells, this county, undisturbed, where it was unloaded from the bed of hay, placed in a four-horse wagon and driven through the county about five miles to Alamo, where the wagon was stopped on the edge of the court yard. Judge Harwood was holding court in Alamo at the time, and Attorney General Sherrod stored the whiskey in the courthouse vaults pending final disposition. No one has yet been found who claims the whiskey.

"It is supposed that the car was billed from some nearby wet point by the shipper who hoped to come personally to Fruitvale, and by himself or with the help of agents unload the car in the night and get away with the contents. Fruitvale is only a stop on the Louisville and Nashville railroad. The owner of the whiskey very evidently missed his train or was delayed in some way in arriving on the scene, the result being that the car and its contents were discovered, with the outcome as above mentioned. It is not thought the party to whom the car was billed had any connection

with the matter."

The Caruthersville papers seem to think that Dr. W. J. Porter, the veterinarian, shipped the whiskey, and say that he is "missing" from the ever changing population of that thrifty city; in fact, one paper over there goes so far as to say that he had safely landed several shipments over there, in his home neighborhood, and that in this shipment was intending to make a "cleaning" and retire. It is said that he followed the car as far as Memphis, when he discovered a "spotter" was shadowing the car, and abandoned it, and now the detectives are looking for him.

To Honor Roosevelt

Gov. Gardner has asked Missourians to observe February 9 in memory of Col. Roosevelt.

"February 9 has been set aside by the Congress of the United States for the purpose of honoring the memory of the late Col. Theodore Roosevelt," said Gov. Gardner. "It is most fitting that this day be observed in Missouri as Roosevelt Memorial Day and that the people wherever assembled pay tribute to his memory. His rugged honesty, his vigorous defense of the principles of life and government which he believed to be right and just, and his loyal ultra-Americanism command their admiration and respect.

"I hope that on this day which the Congress has set apart the splendid lessons to be drawn from the life of this great patriot may be impressed not only upon the minds of the citizens of the State, but upon the minds of the children as well."

Mayor B. L. Guffy of this city has made a special request that all citizens who can, meet at the High School Auditorium Sunday at 2:30 p. m., where memorial services will be conducted.

The editor, was in Portageville, Marston, Lillbourn on Monday, and at Caruthersville Tuesday on business matters.

Charlie Provine is Dead

The above brief words will bring sadness to many hearts—"Charlie Provine is dead"—for he was a man without enemies, and do know him was to have a friend and be a friend, for it would be a heart of steel that would not yield to his kind and sympathetic nature.

A Message was received by the Masons lodge in this city Sunday afternoon announcing his death. It is to be presumed therefore that he died some time Sunday. It is not known what disposition will be made of his body, but it is presumed that it will be shipped to his old home at Harrisburg, Illinois, for burial.

Mr. Provine was for many years a citizen of Gayoso and Hayti, being in the employ of J. L. Dorris in his mercantile business at Gayoso for several years before coming to Hayti in the same capacity. He was later cashier of the Citizens Bank in this city, giving up that position for a position in the offices of the Cotton Belt railroad at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, several years ago, where he has since resided. Taking ill of Bright's disease, he went to the Cotton Belt hospital at Texarkana about four months ago, where he died.

Taking the Bray Out of Missouri

An operation on braying machinery of the Missouri mule was the last but not the least successful measure taken by Uncle Sam in getting his ships across the Atlantic without the German submarines seeing or hearing them. The quartermaster of one of the biggest transports on the Atlantic on a recent return trip home reported that on a recent trip overseas he had 500 mules, and that there was something terrible doing when they started a braying concert. The ship's veterinary surgeon was consulted, with the result that he made a neat incision in the nostrils of each of the 500 mules that took all of the noise out of the bray. By the time the French port was reached the mules could not even whisper.

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who want Quality, Style and good feeling appearance can have this when they buy Hart Shaffner & Marx Clothes, Stacey Adams, Edwin Clapp and Walk Over Shoes, Manhattan and Manchester Shirts, Stetson, Knox, Mallory and Musgrave & Mason Hats of quality, in fact our entire stock of America's best merchandise and makes are included in this sale.

Remember

This Sale Positively Closes Saturday Night, February 1st and it is to your advantage to attend this Sale and take advantage of these prices.

"If MEN Wear it We Carry it"

A Sale for Men
and Young Men.

MUSGRAVE & MASON

A Store of Quality
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